

later just 3.3 million were required to grow the nation's food, while the number of people required to provide the nation's insurance had more than doubled." Well, I guess that is good for the economy. It gives people jobs. Of course, the more jobs, the higher the cost of the insurance. I think what the author is getting at is that the insurance business is the most mismanaged business of all, probably even more than government. "Incredibly, these were the same thirty years that saw clerical, number-crunching, paper-shuffling businesses like insurance revolutionized by the computer. (Not to mention the pocket calculator.) The average cost of processing 100,000 computations fell during this time from more than a dollar to less than a quarter of a cent, and still the ranks of the insurance industry swelled." And that is one of their arguments for raising your premiums all the time. They keep telling you how their costs go up, never mentioning their own stupid mismanagement. Now for you trivia buffs, it looks like the Pages might be the only ones interested in trivia or in anything I have to say here, so for you trivia buffs, "The tallest building in the United States is Chicago's Sears Tower. In each year since 1977, Sears has earned more from insurance--and their insurance company is Allstate--"than they have from retailing." And an interesting sidelight is, Sears and Roebuck for the last five years has been in the red on their retail sales. They have lost money. What has kept them going is Allstate Insurance and, of course, now they are in the banking industry, and the stocks and bonds industry. They had to do something. But their retail outlets are kaput. They haven't made money in five years, but they do provide them with a nice mailing list. And if you read Business Week or the other magazines, you will notice how Sears and Roebuck is giving giveaways now to people who will buy stocks from them. I think the Securities Exchange Commission might be looking at that to see if it is legal or not, but...maybe it is a house. If you buy a house through Sears and Roebuck's Coldwell Bankers, why, they will give you a free stove or refrigerator for going through them. You can imagine how the other realtors appreciate that but, of course, some of the other realtors, especially in Omaha, have been taking advantage of the people so much, it is kind of that what goes around comes around theory.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: So, in 1950 there were 7.2 million Americans working in agriculture in this country and around 800,000 in